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EXAMINER

EL CHANTI, HUSSEIN A

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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**BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES**

Application Number: 09/998,996
Filing Date: November 15, 2001
Appellant(s): SIMPSON ET AL.

Mr. Avid Risley (reg. No. 39,345)
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to the appeal brief filed August 16, 2007 appealing from the Office action mailed Feb. 10, 2006.

(1) Real Party in Interest

A statement identifying the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

(3) Status of Claims

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct.

(4) Status of Amendments After Final

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief is correct.

(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

The appellant's statement of the grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal is correct.

(7) Claims Appendix

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

(8) Evidence Relied Upon

Savitzky et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,012,083.

(9) Grounds of Rejection

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The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-14 and 20-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Savitzky et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,012,083 (referred to hereafter as Savitzky).

As to claims 1 and 10, Savitzky teaches a method and system for printing on a local printing device using a network-based printing service associated with a the local rip intro device, the method comprising:

obtaining an a network address of the network-based printing service (see col.12 lines 42-67);

designating the network-based printing service address as a default destination such that a user browser executing on a client device is redirected directly to the network-based printing service when a print command is received (see col.12 lines 42-67 and col. 12 lines 66-col. 13 lines 14, the printer agency is designated as a default printing service where the print commands are automatically directed to the printing agency);

receiving a print command provided to an imaging service with the user browser (see col. 12 lines 66-col. 13 lines 14, print command is received),

automatically redirecting the user browser to the network-based printing service (see col. 13 lines 15-27, browser request is redirected to the printer agency);

accessing image data from a personal imaging repository with the network-based-printing service (see col. 13 lines 28-44, image is presented to the user with print options); and

initiating a print job on the local printing device with the network-based printing service (see col. 13 lines 20-28, printer is selected to perform printing).

As to claim 2, Savitzky teaches the method of claim 1, wherein obtaining a network address comprises receiving a URL of the network based printing service (see col. 12 lines 64-col. 13 lines 26).

As to claim 3, Savitzky teaches the method of claim 2 wherein the network based printing service comprises a web site (see col. 12 lines 64-col. 13 lines 26).

As to claims 4 and 12, Savitzky teaches the method and system of claims 1 and 10, wherein the step of designating the network-based printing service address as a default destination comprises maintaining updating a record of a current default destination with an imaging extension (see col.12 lines 42-67).

As to claims 6 and 13, Savitzky teaches the method and system of claims 1 and 10, wherein the step e designating the network-based printing service address as a default destination comprises instructing a personal imaging repository that stores image data available for printing to designate the network-based printing service address as the default destination (see col.12 lines 42-67).

As to claims 8 and 14, Savitzky teaches the method and system of claims 1 and 10, further comprising first detecting a direct connection between a client device and the local printing device (see col. 13 lines 15-28).

As to claim 9, Savitzky teaches the method of claim 8, further comprising the step removing the designation of the network-based printing service address as a

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default destination when a connection between the client device and the local printing device is severed (see col.12 lines 42-67 and fig. 5).

As to claim 20, Savitzky teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the network-based printing service is hosted by the local printing device (see col.13 lines 1-26 and fig. 5).

As to claim 21, Savitzky teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the network-based printing service is hosted by a remote network server (see col.13 lines 1-26).

As to claim 22, Savitzky teaches the method of claim 1, wherein obtaining a network address of the network-based printing service comprises obtaining the network address from an imaging extension (see col.13 lines 1-26 and fig. 5).

As to claim 23, Savitzky teaches the method of claim 22, wherein the imaging extension comprises part of the user browser (see col.13 lines 1-26 and fig. 5).

As to claim 24, Savitzky teaches the method of claim 22, wherein the imaging extension executes on a remote network server (see col.13 lines 1-26).

As to claim 25, Savitzky teaches the method of claim 22, wherein the imaging extension obtains the network address by querying the local printing device (see col.13 lines 1-26).

As to claim 26, Savitzky teaches the method of claim 1, wherein obtaining a network address of the network-based printing service comprises obtaining the network address from a direct connection manager that executes on the client device (see col.13 lines 1-26 and fig. 5).

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As to claim 27, Savitzky teaches the method of claim 26, wherein the direct connection manager obtains the network address by querying the local printing device (see col. 13 lines 1-14).

As to claim 28, Savitzky teaches the method of claim 4, wherein the imaging extension comprises part of the user browser (see col. 12 lines 64-col. 13 lines 26).

As to claim 29, Savitzky teaches the method of claim 4, wherein the imaging extension executes on a remote network server (see col. 12 lines 64-col. 13 lines 26).

As to claim 30, Savitzky teaches the method of claim 1, wherein accessing image data from a personal imaging repository comprises accessing the image data using an imaging extension (see col. 12 lines 64-col. 13 lines 26).

As to claim 31, Savitzky teaches the method of claim 30, wherein the imaging extension comprises part of the user browser and accessing image data further comprises downloading generic access instructions from the network-based printing service to the imaging extension to call on the imaging extension to access the personal imaging repository (see col. 12 lines 1-15).

As to claim 32, Savitzky teaches the method of claim 31, wherein the imaging extension comprises at least one application programming interface (API) (see col. 21 lines 50-67).

As to claim 33, Savitzky teaches the method of claim 30, wherein the imaging extension executes on a remote network server (see col. 12 lines 64-col. 13 lines 26).

As to claim 34, Savitzky teaches the method of claim 33, wherein the imaging extension comprises at least one application programming interface (API) (see col. 21 lines 50-67).

As to claim 35, Savitzky teaches the system of claim 10, wherein the means for obtaining a network address of the network-based printing service comprise an imaging extension (see col. 12 lines 64-col. 13 lines 26).

As to claim 36, Savitzky teaches the system of claim 35, wherein the imaging extension comprises part of the user browser (see col. 12 lines 64-col. 13 lines 26).

As to claim 37, Savitzky teaches the system of claim 36, wherein the imaging extension obtains the network address by querying the local printing device (see col. 12 lines 64-col. 13 lines 26 and fig. 5).

As to claim 38, Savitzky teaches the system of claim 10, wherein the means for obtaining a network address of the network-based printing service comprise a direct connection manager that executes on the client device (see col. 12 lines 64-col. 13 lines 26).

As to claim 39, Savitzky teaches the system of claim 38, wherein the direct connection manager obtains the network address by querying the local printing device (see col. 12 lines 64-col. 13 lines 26).

As to claim 40, Savitzky teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the means for accessing image data from a personal imaging repository comprise an imaging extension (see col. 11 lines 1-67).

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As to claim 41, Savitzky teaches the system of claim 40, wherein the imaging extension comprises part of the user browser and receives calls from generic access instructions downloaded into the user browser from the network-based printing service to the imaging extension to call on the imaging extension to access the personal imaging repository (see col. 12 lines 1-15).

As to claim 42, Savitzky teaches the system of claim 41, wherein the imaging extension comprises at least one application programming interface (API) (see col. 21 lines 45-67).

As to claim 43, Savitzky teaches the system of claim 10, further comprising means for removing the designation of the network-based printing service address as a default destination when a connection between the client device and the local printing

- The 35 USC 112 second paragraph rejection of claims 1 and 10 is withdrawn.

(10) Response to Argument

The examiner summarizes the various points raised by the appellant and addresses replies individually.

As per appellants arguments filed on August 16, 2007, the appellant argues that the finality of the rejection mailed on Feb. 10, 2006 is improper (see Brief pages 10-12, argument A).

In reply to A, Appellant is reminded that the finality of an Office action is a petitionable, not an appealable action. Further, Appellant introduced new limitations to independent claims 1 and 10 in the response filed March 7, 2005. Appellant's

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amendment necessitated the new grounds of rejection and therefore the rejection was made final.

Appellant argues that the 112 rejection with respect to claims 1 and 10 is improper (see Brief pages 12-17, argument B).

In reply to B, the 112 rejection has been withdrawn and the argument is moot.

Appellant argues that Savitzky does not teach or suggest “designating the network-based printing service address as a default destination such that a user browser executing on a client device is redirected directly to the network-based printing service” (see Brief page 19, argument C)

In reply to C, Savitzky teaches a method and system for sending print requests over a network. The print requests are sent by default to the printer agency. Examiner interprets the address of the printer agency as a default address where all the print requests are sent by default to the printer agency (see col. 12 lines 66-col. 13 lines 14). Savitzky also teaches the printer agency determines a set of printers capable of performing the print function and selects a printer by requesting a selection from the user or by automatically selecting a printer to perform the print function (see col. 13 lines 1-55).

Appellant argues that Savitzky does not teach or suggest “automatically redirecting the user browser to the network-based printing service” (see brief page 20 lines 1-15, argument D).

In reply to D, Savitzky also teaches that when a print command is sent to the printing agency which is the default destination for any print command sent by the user, the printer agency then generates a preview page that has its own address such as the address shown in fig. 5 which is a combination of the webpage address and the printer agency address that was generated by the printer agency (see fig. 5 and col. 13 lines 1-14). Looking closely at fig. 5, the location address shows www.crc.ricoh.com/webprinter/crcprinter/html and in the middle of fig. 5 show “you are previewing www.crc.ricoh.com/index.html (see fig. 4-6 and col. 13 lines 29-44). Therefore the printer agency generates a new URL and webpage that previews the original website and redirects the browser to the newly generated website with a different URL as shown in fig. 4-6. Therefore Savitzky teaches “automatically redirecting the user browser to the network-based printing service” as claimed.

Appellant argues that Savitzky does not teach or suggest “obtaining a URL of the network based printing service” (see brief page 20 lines 16-25, argument E).

In reply to E, as discussed above, Savitzky teaches generating a URL and website where the browser is redirected to preview and print the requested webpage as shown in fig. 4-6 and therefore Savitzky teaches obtaining a URL of the network based printing service.

Appellant argues that Savitzky does not teach or suggest “updating a record of a current default destination with an imaging extension” (see brief page 20 lines 25-30, argument F).

In reply to F, as discussed in argument D, Savitzky teaches that the printing agency receives the print request from the client with the URL of the document to be printed and then generates a new URL with a preview of the requested document and redirects the browser to a new page with a new URL (see fig. 4-6 and col. 13 lines 1-44). The newly generated URL includes a preview or an image of the requested page to be printed. The new URL includes the URL of the document or image to be printed. Examiner interprets the document address or URL to be the image extension and therefore Savitzky teaches updating the default address which is the address of the printer agency with the new generated URL using the URL or address of the image “imaging extension” or page to be printed. Therefore Savitzky teaches the limitation as claimed.

Appellant argues that Savitzky does not teach or suggest “instructing a personal imaging repository that stores image data available for printing to designate the network-based printing service address as the default destination” (see brief page 21 lines 1-5, argument G).

In reply to G, also as discussed above, since Savitzky teaches that the new generated URL includes a preview or an image of the requested page to be printed. The

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new URL includes the URL of the document or image to be printed. Therefore the system of the printing agency which is the “personal image repository”, which stores a preview of the file to be printed, designates the new URL to be the default destination address for printing that specific image. Therefore Savitzky teaches “instructing a personal imaging repository that stores image data available for printing to designate the network-based printing service address as the default destination” as claimed.

Appellant argues that Savitzky does not teach or suggest “removing the designation of the network-based printing service address as a default destination” (see brief page 21 lines 6-10, argument H)

In reply to H, since each request for a URL includes a unique address being generated and designated as a default printing address for that specific document, then the default address is changed by the default printing agency every time a request for a different URL is received. Therefore Savitzky teaches “removing the designation of the network-based printing service address as a default destination” as claimed.

Appellant argues that Savitzky does not teach or suggest “the imaging extension comprises part of the user browser and receives calls from generic access instructions downloaded into the user browser from the network-based printing service to the imaging extension to call on the imaging extension to access the personal imaging repository” (see brief pages 22 lines 25-page 23 lines 5, argument I)

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In reply to I, Savitzky teaches the new generated URL imaging extension of fig. 5 is part of the browser. Also the browser downloads from the printer agency "network printing service" control buttons "generic access instructions" such as PRINT, OPTIONS and STATUS commands that are downloaded into the user browser which are used to send a print command to print the document or page at the requested network address or URL "imaging extension" which is also a part of the browser as shown in fig. 5 (see col. 13 lines 1-14 and lines 29-44). Since the control buttons are downloaded into the browser and since the same controls are downloaded into each browser, examiner interprets the controls as the "generic access instructions" which are used to call on the address of the stored document or file "imaging extension" to print the document or file.

Appellant argues that Savitzky does not teach or disclose "at least one application programming interface (API) (see brief pages 23 lines 5-8, argument J).

In reply to J, Savitzky teaches the system and method uses a browser which translates user commands from the application level "layer 7" i.e. the browser level to a network or transport level "layer 3 and 4" to send the commands over the network. The application layer inherently has an API i.e. "layer 5" interface that translates the user commands from an application layer "layer 7" to the transport layer or network layer i.e. "layer 3 and 4". Also Savitzky explicitly states that the user browser contains an API in the user browser in col. 21 lines 55-67. Therefore Savitzky teaches the limitation as claimed.

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(11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix

No decision rendered by a court or the Board is identified by the examiner in the Related Appeals and Interferences section of this examiner's answer.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

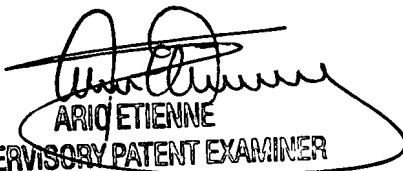
Respectfully submitted,

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/Hussein Elchanti/
Nov. 21, 2007

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